

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 STATE 051987
ORIGIN L-03

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 INR-07 OES-06 ACDA-07 AGRE-00
AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DLOS-06
DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 EPA-01 ERDA-05 FEAE-00 FMC-01
TRSE-00 H-01 INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00 NSAE-00 NSC-05
NSF-01 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
SAL-01 /114 R

DRAFTED BY L/OES:DACOLSON:LHS

APPROVED BY L:MBFELDMAN

INR/RGE - DR. HODGSON

OES/OFA - MR. SCULLY

ARA/CAR - MR. THYDEN

-----091424Z 086415 /40

R 091402Z MAR 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY NASSAU

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 051987

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PBOR, PLOS, EFIS

SUBJECT: U.S.-BAHAMAS MARITIME BOUNDARIES

1. AT DISCUSSIONS ON THE LIMITS OF U.S. FISHERY JURIS-
DICTION HELD IN NASSAU, FEB. 24 AND 25, DEPUTY LEGAL
ADVISER FELDMAN PROMISED GCOB OFFICIALS A BRIEF STATEMENT
IN WRITING DESCRIBING IN TECHNICAL TERMS HOW THE U.S.
ENFORCEMENT LINE WAS DETERMINED.

2. FOLLOWING IS TEXT WHICH CAN BE MADE AVAILABLE TO GCOB
AS EITHER A NON-PAPER OR AIDE-MEMOIRE AT EMBASSY'S
DISCRETION. BEGIN TEXT:
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 STATE 051987

FISHERY ZONE LIMITS -- U.S.-BAHAMAS (TITLE CENTERED)

IN THE AREA OF THE STRAITS OF FLORIDA, THE USG APPLIED
THE PRINCIPLE OF EQUIDISTANCE IN DETERMINING THE LIMITS OF
U.S. FISHERY JURISDICTION. THE EQUIDISTANT LINE WAS
DETERMINED BY USING THE BASEPOINTS ON THE NEAREST U.S. AND

BAHAMIAN TERRITORY. THE USE OF THE PRINCIPLE OF EQUI-DISTANCE WAS TERMINATED AT THE NORTHERN END OF THE STRAITS OF FLORIDA, AT 27 DEGREES 26'00" N. LATITUDE, 79 DEGREES 31'38" W. LONGITUDE.

IN THE AREA OF THE BLAKE PLATEAU, THE FISHERY ENFORCEMENT LINE WAS DEVELOPED ON A COASTAL PROPORTIONALITY MODEL. THE RELEVANT PROPORTIONALITY WAS DETERMINED CONSERVATIVELY TO BE APPROXIMATELY 4.4 TO 1 BASED ON THE GENERAL DIRECTION OF THE U.S. COAST AS MEASURED BETWEEN CAPE CANAVERAL AND CAPE FEAR (ABOUT 365 NAUTICAL MILES) AND ON THE GENERAL DIRECTION OF THE BAHAMIAN COAST AS MEASURED BY A STRAIGHT LINE BETWEEN WALKERS CAY AND MAN OF WAR CAY (ABOUT 90 NAUTICAL MILES). THE AREA TO BE ALLOCATED WAS DETERMINED BY DRAWING CONSTRUCTION LINES BETWEEN MAN OF WAR CAY AND CAPE CANAVERAL, CAPE CANAVERAL AND CAPE FEAR, AND CAPE FEAR AND MAN OF WAR CAY, THEREBY CREATING A TRIANGLE ROUGHLY APPROXIMATING THE AREA OF THE BLAKE PLATEAU TO BE DELIMITED. THE FISHERY ENFORCEMENT LINE DRAWN IN THIS AREA ALLOCATES THE AREA WITHIN THE TRIANGLE IN A RATIO OF APPROXIMATELY 4 TO 1.

ANY NUMBER OF LINES OF DELIMITATION COULD PRODUCE THE APPROPRIATE RATIO. HOWEVER, IN AN EFFORT TO MOVE THE LINE AS FAR NORTH AS POSSIBLE FROM BAHAMIAN ISLANDS AND TO KEEP IT FROM COMING TOO CLOSE TO LITTLE BAHAMA BANK, THE LINE WAS EXTENDED FROM THE NORTHERN END OF THE STRAITS OF FLORIDA TO A POINT AT 27 DEGREES 52'54' N. LATITUDE, 79 DEGREES 28'36" W. LONGITUDE, WHICH IS THE MID-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 STATE 051987

POINT OF A LINE BETWEEN CAPE CANAVERAL AND WALKERS CAY AND THENCE TO A HINGE POINT AT 28 DEGREES 17'10" N. LATITUDE, 79 DEGREES 11'24" W. LONGITUDE. FROM THIS HINGE POINT, THE LINE THEN EXTENDS DUE EAST ALONG 28 DEGREES 17'10" N. LATITUDE. END TEXT.
VANCE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TEXT, AIDE MEMOIRE, FISHING LIMITS, TWO HUNDRED MILE LIMIT, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 09-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE051987
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: DACOLSON:LHS
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770081-0167
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770377/aaaacptc.tel
Line Count: 103
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: edcdd1ba-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN L
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 31-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3160222
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: U.S.-BAHAMAS MARITIME BOUNDARIES
TAGS: PBOR, PLOS, EFIS, BF, US
To: NASSAU
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/edcdd1ba-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009